United Nations A/53/208/Add.1

General Assembly

Distr.: General
29 October 1998
English
Original: Spanish

Fifty-third session
Agenda item 71 (p)

General and complete disarmament: follow-up to the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons*

Note by the Secretary-General

Addendum

Contents

Page

Information received from Governments 2

Mexico 2

98-32939 (E) 301098 301098

Information received from Governments

Mexico

[Original: Spanish]
[18 August 1998]

Mexico has traditionally expressed, in the various disarmament forums, its firm belief that the existence of nuclear weapons is the principal threat to the survival of humankind. The total elimination of nuclear arsenals is therefore a priority task for the States Members of the United Nations and a commitment set forth in the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, held in 1978.

Mexico is convinced that all States have an obligation to pursue in good faith and bring to a conclusion negotiations leading to nuclear disarmament in all its aspects under strict and effective international control, in keeping with the historic advisory opinions of the International Court of Justice of 8 July 1996.

Mexico has demonstrated by its actions its unswerving commitment to the cause of nuclear disarmament. It promoted the first nuclear-weapon-free zone, established by the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco). It has reiterated its full support for compliance with the provisions of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, in particular article VI on the holding of negotiations on nuclear disarmament. It is a signatory to the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, in the negotiation of which it played an active part. Together with delegations from the Group of 21, it presented to the Conference on Disarmament various proposals for the establishment of an ad hoc committee on nuclear disarmament, and it has advocated the multilateral negotiation of a binding international legal instrument on the security assurances that nuclear-weapon States should give to non-nuclear-weapon States.

Mexico supports the General Assembly in calling upon all States to commence multilateral negotiations leading to an early conclusion of a nuclear weapons convention prohibiting the development, production, testing, deployment, stockpiling, transfer, threat or use of nuclear weapons and providing for their elimination.

As one further measure which the Government of Mexico has taken to support the nuclear disarmament process and give effect to resolution 52/38 O, on 9 June 1998, together with Brazil, Egypt, Ireland, New Zealand, Slovenia, South Africa and Sweden, it submitted the joint declaration on nuclear disarmament entitled "Towards a nuclear-weapon-free world: the need for a new agenda". This declaration provides a plan of action for bringing about a world free of nuclear weapons, with steps that can and should be taken among the nuclear-weapon States and by those States in conjunction with non-nuclear-weapon States.